

ABSTRACT

A method for controlling a manufacturing process integrates transactional and real-time data. Scheduling and inventory data relating to an item to be manufactured, as well as design data for the item to be manufactured are retrieved from a database. Control data derived from the inventory and design data is transmitted to a machine adapted to manufacture the item. Real-time event notification data is received from the manufacturing machine and the scheduling and inventory data updated to reflect the real-time event notification data.